

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A composition comprising:  
a liquid medium;  
a cyclodextrin component in an amount in a range  
of about 0.1% to about 30% (w/v); and  
5 a chlorite component in an effective preserving  
amount.
2. The composition of claim 1 wherein the liquid  
medium is an aqueous liquid medium.
3. The composition of claim 1 wherein the  
cyclodextrin component is selected from the group  
consisting of  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin, derivatives of  $\beta$ -  
cyclodextrin and mixtures thereof.
4. The composition of claim 1 wherein the chlorite  
component is present in an amount of about 500 ppm (w/v)  
or less.
5. The composition of claim 1 wherein the chlorite  
component is present in an amount in a range of about 10  
ppm(w/v) to about 200 ppm(w/v).
6. The composition of claim 1 wherein the chlorite  
component is stabilized chlorine dioxide.
7. The composition of claim 1 which further  
comprises an active component in an amount effective in  
providing a desired effect to a human or an animal after  
the composition is administered to the human or animal.

8. The composition of claim 7 wherein the active component is a pharmaceutically active component effective in providing a desired therapeutic effect to the human or animal after the composition is administered to the human or animal.

9. A composition comprising:  
a liquid medium;  
a cyclodextrin component in an amount in a range of about 0.1% to about 30% (w/v); and  
a preservative component in an effective preserving amount, the preservative component having a greater preservative efficacy in the composition relative to an identical amount of benzalkonium chloride.

10. The composition of claim 9 wherein the preservative component forms a complex with the cyclodextrin component to a lesser degree than benzalkonium chloride.

11. The composition of claim 9 wherein the liquid medium is an aqueous liquid medium, and the preservative component is present in an amount of less than about 0.8% (w/v).

12. The composition of claim 9 wherein the preservative component is present in an amount in a range of about 10 ppm(w/v) to about 200 ppm(w/v).

13. The composition of claim 10 wherein the cyclodextrin component is selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin, derivatives of  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin and mixtures thereof.

14. The composition of claim 9 wherein the preservative component is selected from the group consisting of chlorite components, sorbic acid components and mixtures thereof.

15. The composition of claim 9 wherein the preservative component is stabilized chlorine dioxide.

16. The composition of claim 9 wherein the preservative component is selected from the group consisting of sorbic acid, sorbates and mixtures thereof.

17. The composition of claim 9 which further comprises an active component in an amount effective in providing a desired effect to a human or an animal after the composition is administered to the human or animal.

18. The composition of claim 17 wherein the active component is a pharmaceutically active component effective in providing a desired therapeutic effect to the human or animal after the composition is administered to the human or animal.

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19. The composition of claim 9 which is substantially free of inclusion complexes of the cyclodextrin component and the preservative component.

20. A composition comprising:  
a liquid medium;  
an active component in an amount effective in providing a desired effect to a human or an animal after the composition is administered to the human or animal;  
a cyclodextrin component in an amount effective to increase the apparent solubility of the active

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component in the liquid medium or to enhance the stability of the active component in the composition or to reduce  
10 unwanted side effects of the active component; and

a preservative component in an effective preserving amount, the preservative component having greater preservative efficacy in the composition relative to an identical amount of benzalkonium chloride.

21. The composition of claim 20 wherein the liquid medium is an aqueous liquid medium.

22. The composition of claim 20 wherein the active component is a pharmaceutically active component effective in providing a desired therapeutic effect to the human or animal after the composition is administered to the human  
5 or animal.

23. The composition of claim 21 wherein the active component is a pharmaceutically active component effective in providing a desired therapeutic effect to the human or animal after the composition is administered to the human  
5 or animal.

24. The composition of claim 20 wherein the cyclodextrin component is selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin, derivatives of  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin and mixtures thereof.

25. The composition of claim 20 wherein the cyclodextrin component is present in an amount in a range of about 0.1% to about 30% (w/v).

26. The composition of claim 20 wherein the preservative component forms a complex with the

cyclodextrin component to a lesser degree than does benzalkonium chloride.

27. The composition of claim 20 wherein the preservative component is present in an amount of about 1% (w/v) or less.

28. The composition of claim 20 wherein the preservative component is present in an amount in a range of about 10 ppm(w/v) to about 200 ppm(w/v).

29. The composition of claim 20 wherein the preservative component is selected from the group consisting of chlorite components, sorbic acid components and mixtures thereof.

30. The composition of claim 29 wherein the preservative component is stabilized chlorine dioxide.